



HOPE, JOY AND LOVE RISING

Cast~A~Net

First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande JULY 2020

Bishop Hagiya's Briefing (June 29, 2020)

As predicted by our health experts, COVID-19 cases are continuing to spike after normalizing with social distancing. Thinking only of re-election, many of our politicians rushed to reopen too soon, and we are seeing the dire consequences playing out before our eyes. It is the value of blatant consumerism and economic greed over human lives. When choosing between an economic downturn or public safety, we have witnessed that there is no contest in our secular political leadership. Even waiting one more month could have made a big difference in lives lost. When I think of the friends that I have lost to COVID-19, no economic prices can be put on their lives.

Blaming politicians is an easy target, and we would be well advised to look inward to our own souls as the American public. I have heard too often: "I'm going stir-crazy...I can't stay home for another week...I can't wait any longer for things to open up." These are all trivial excuses, and I put much more stock into those who have to get back to work in order to feed their families, or save their small businesses.

Our American society is so impatient, and the selfish urge to shop at a mall, eat in a restaurant, or drink at a bar, overcomes our common sense. We become the alcoholic who goes on a drinking binge without thinking of the consequences. The individualism of our Western society is also a factor here. "No one can tell **me** to wear a mask, social distance, or not see **my** friends!" It is one thing to put oneself at risk, but there are very few individuals without parents, family, and friends who will be infected if I am infected. The arguments for the greater good of all are being drowned out by the demand for individual freedoms.

We as the United Methodist Church must stand for a higher value. We must put the care of others before our selfish desires. We must value human life over the economic bottom line. We must think safety first, convenience later. God demands from us a greater faith to put compassion and care before selfish desire and greed.

This is a time for us to take stock of who we are as the people of God. It is a season for us to double our time in prayer, spiritual practices and discernment. John Wesley has taught us that the quest of salvation means our love of God and neighbor increases, and our preoccupation with self diminishes. To be faithful right now means that we care more about others than ourselves, and we do everything to protect the other.

I want to thank all of those who were behind the scenes of our virtual annual conference sessions last week. We had minor glitches, but overall, the technology ran fairly smoothly, and we were able to complete all of our essential business. There were event things that worked better than physically meeting in Redlands! So much so, that we may be incorporating what we have learned if we are allowed to return to a physical annual conference in the future. There are so many hidden volunteers who made it possible for us to pull this off. You know who you are, and I know you do it for the love of the church, not for individual recognition. However, let me share the biggest THANK YOU for all that you did for us!

Our inspiration for the week comes from the Hebrew Bible:

"Be strong, and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. God will not leave you or forsake you" Deuteronomy 31:6

Be the Hope,

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

Los Angeles Area Resident bishop

Reflections from Annual Conference 2020

As you might suspect, this was not Annual Conference as usual! We didn't get to drive all the way across Los Angeles to the University of Redlands, fighting huge traffic jams! We didn't get to sleep in hard dormitory bunk beds or eat cafeteria food. We stayed in our own comfortable homes and ZOOMed! It was a "virtual" Conference. But in some ways it was a more meaningful and exciting three days than being in person in Redlands. We could watch and listen to Bishop Hagiya, his staff and the committee chairs explain important issues, watch videos of various committees and speakers and still make important decisions. The theme of the Conference was "We are the Church: Transforming the World".

I had expected that the whole issue of whether to accept the recommendations of last year's divisive decision at the General Conference to become a denomination that doesn't accept the LGBTQI community (known as the "Traditional Plan") would dominate the discussions. But that decision has been postponed until 2021 because the General Conference has postponed its meeting due to the Corona Virus.

Instead, the Bishop steered us towards discussion and contemplation of the current issues of racial unrest. This included changes to the proposed budget and to our mission going forward as a Conference. A new Executive Director of Connectional Ministries, Erin Hawkins, has been hired and she will start in September. Ms. Hawkins comes to Cal-Pac after having served as the General Secretary of the Commission on Religion and Race, an agency that has been charged with leading the church's efforts to be "fully inclusive of the participation of racial ethnic persons". In addition to hiring Ms. Hawkins, the Conference delegates also decided to put \$35,000 in the Conference Budget to support and strengthen Black Churches primarily in the Los Angeles Area. They also added \$12,000 for a camp and leadership development for black youth. This is all part of the very positive action to support racial justice that our Annual Conference is taking in response to the recent activities going on in our nation. I am so proud of our Conference and the actions they have taken. I hope we will all pray for the success of these efforts.

submitted by Patti Melsheimer, Delegate



Carolyn Russell reminds students that if you would like a weekly Sunday School lesson, go to Google Classroom. You use a Chrome browser and search for Google Classroom.

You can join our classroom with this code:

Google Classroom Code [fwvs5fk](#)

Joshua 1:1-9

Joshua had been Moses's helper for a long time, so when Moses died, Joshua became the new leader of the Israelites. God spoke to Joshua and gave him clear

instructions about entering the promised land. God promised to give them the land and no one would be able to stop them. God would always be with them, but they needed to follow all of God's instruction. Three times God told Joshua to be brave and strong.

God asked Joshua to lead the Israelites into the promised land. Has God ever asked you to do something big? Here is the lesson for today. You can read it on your device or print it out to work on. I think we have all been asked to do something pretty big by taking care of each other. We hope you are all safe and healthy! Much love to you.

Ms. Russell and Ms. Odom
First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

Please Come up the Learning Curve!

On-line "one time" ZOOM CLASS:

Creation

July 8, 2020, 5:30pm PDT

Jamie Foster will lead an online presentation about the Creation story. It'll be a look at the first couple chapters of Genesis, what God is trying to tell us, how it compares to what science knows, and a look at some fun, wow stuff about the universe. To join the meeting when the appointed hour comes, go to our website at www.worshipweekly.com,



then go to the ACTIVITIES page and you will see a repeat of this ad with a link. Click the link. There is nothing to download or install. This is an updated, stand-alone piece of Jamie's bigger course entitled "Is God Expanding, too?"

And this note from the pastor: Even if you are not "particularly" interested, please try this! We need to know who can "get to class" on things like this because we want to create more such activities for you so that you can actually SEE EACH OTHER and INTERACT! So, everything we try is a sprint up the learning curve and our attempt to reach out to you. If this works well, I'd like to set up a "one time" ZOOM meeting that is simply a chat with as many of us as we can get in the Zoom Room together! So, give it a try!

--- Respectfully Submitted, The Pastor



COMING TO THE CHURCH
DRIVE-THROUGH ON
FATHERS DAY,
JOE BROWN,
DAVID BEAMAN AND
BOB THRONSON,
ALONG WITH MANY
MORE DADS,
RECEIVED GOODY BAGS
COURTESY OF THE
UNITED METHODIST
WOMEN



Redlands Via Grover Beach!

Annual Conference was certainly “novel” this year as a result of the corona virus. John Wesley’s guidelines dictated the format as we took our cues from Wesley’s “THREE SIMPLE RULES” to “Do no harm”. “Do good” and “Stay in love with God.” In order to do just that we all ZOOMED to Redlands from our own cozy homes and office habitats! Frankly, it was a good conference for me.

The team gathered at the hub in Pasadena met at Pasadena First UMC and they did an excellent, excellent job of making it all happen on line. I appreciated the video presentations and input, the worship services and the fact that they managed to orchestrate an in-person celebration of those entering ministry as ordinands for 2020. It was a huge amount of work expertly done. I even enjoyed the voting because I was keenly aware of the hard work and sacrifices it took on the part of so many to make this virtual Annual Conference possible. Leave it to the creativity, strength and stamina of United Methodists. Bravo and “Yay Team”. I remain a United Methodist through and through and continue to pray for the many challenges we face together.

I felt proud and honored to simply be able to say that “I know Sandy Olewine” the lead pastor of Pasadena First who was already remarkable when I met her in seminary in about 1982. She was one of the brightest, most insightful and powerful young seminarians I was ever privileged to meet and it was incredible to listen to her powerful words and witness 38 years later after many seasons and experiences in committed discipleship.

If you would like to view any of the presentations, and “modified” worship services that inspired us “long-distance” this year, go to www.calpacumc.org and write in AC2020 and you’ll find some interesting things there. There are presentations mixed with business, so you can fast-forward through and find some things you may enjoy viewing. I “did conference” with two laptops and an ipad all at once to fill in some of the “lag time” during voting and such to keep it interesting. I’m looking for a particular piece that I thought was wonderful by a young woman named Claire Williams on “grace”. It was the most articulately beautiful explanation and description of grace I have heard to date. It was exquisite to me and I will be sharing it when I am able to retrieve just that clip for you. It gave me hope. It gave me peace. And it empowered me for this tumultuous journey. Thanks be to God. I miss you so much.

—MBB



PROGRAM MINISTRY

Oh dear, oh dear!

Program Ministry is all about being together, hugging, eating, dog walking,
celebrating birthdays and field trips!

Oh, dear! It’s gonna be a while before we gather for activities.

Wear your masks, use hand sanitizer, stay safe, six foot distancing ,
and email me with any ideas. God bless,

Submitted by Sandy Underwood
(contact information found in Church Directory)



“The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”

The time we are living in is like waiting at a traffic light for the light to change, somewhat patiently at first. Then, as time passes ever so slowly, we become apprehensive. Is it broken? Are we stuck here forever? Maybe we should go anyway. Then when we think we can not wait any longer the light turns, but not to green, yellow. Caution! Not what we expected. What is this? We are not sure how to react. We need more information. How do we proceed and when do we proceed? Think of the scripture, Isaiah 41:10.

Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Life continues on, in spite of not knowing what’s ahead. This is where our faith steps in.

As this newsletter was being put together, we celebrated Father Day. Maybe not as we did last year, but in a new way. We celebrated with a “drive by” in the church parking lot, handing out 60 treat bags to our fathers. It was nice to see all of you, even if we were a short distance apart.

The “Virtual Tea” was a great success. It would appear there were a lot of virtual tea parties enjoyed by our congregation’s members.

We continue to make projects for the Holiday Boutique. We may still be in the dark as to whether we can actually have the Boutique, but we are hopeful we will have a craft boutique, maybe not exactly as before but maybe with a new look. So, help us be ready. Pick up a kit during regular office hours. No need to go in. Everyone can keep socially distanced.

Give one of your UMW friends a call. Let’s all keep in touch. And remember **God**, during these times, keep in touch with him.

We’re strong women and God is with us and will guide us through these times.

Have a Happy Fourth!



Grace Leighton, Spiritual Growth Coordinator of the North District, UMW, recently wrote:

When This Is Over

When this is over, may we never again take for granted:

A handshake with a stranger, full shelves at the store, conversation with neighbors, crowded theatre, Friday nights out, the taste of communion, a routine checkup, the school rush each morning, coffee with a friend, the stadium roaring, each deep breath, and life itself.

When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we want to be, that we hope to be, and may that we stay that way, better for each other because of the worst.

submitted by Gerry McGuire

2020-2021 ELT Scholarship Recipients Recognized

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the ELT Scholarship Committee conducted business through phone interviews this spring. We were determined to carefully consider our candidates' applications. We were also excited to have two applicants, **Collin Odom** and **Adrian Paredes**. Both young men were selected as 2020-2021 ELT Scholarship recipients.

Since the beginning of this program 30 years ago, over 50 students have been awarded scholarships. The actual number of scholarships that have been given is almost TWICE that number since many recipients received scholarships multiple years. Some students like Collin have been able to use it during their community college and university years.

Our first recipient, **Collin Odom**, will be a second year transfer student at the Boyer School of Music at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Collin, who plays the oboe, continues to pursue a music degree. Eventually he plans to attend a music observatory and play in an orchestra. In his personal statement he shared that his focus on his instrument has changed "from playing notes on a page to inspiring creativity in my audience." He went on to explain how challenging it can be to play music expressively. Collin will receive a \$500 ELT Scholarship as a recipient for the fifth year.

Our second recipient, **Adrian Paredes**, is enrolling at Cuesta College this fall as a first-year student. As he was growing up, Adrian attended our Sunday School, was a Bible bearer and acolyte, and became a part of the Puppet People group. We are so proud of his decision to pursue higher education. He had to be especially diligent to get through the on-line Cuesta enrollment process without personal meetings with admission personnel. Adrian also loves music. He has been playing a saxophone since sixth grade and has recently started playing the guitar. He hasn't decided what to major in since he has interests in math, music, and science. Adrian will receive a \$750 ELT Scholarship as a first-year recipient.

We wish you both the best as you pursue your love of music and college degrees.

The ELT Scholarship Committee

Judy Leonard, Chair

Marge Cawelti Nancy Gerrish Judy Heiney Gene Heiney BG Perriguey Jan Treat



EVERETT LEE TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 1990-2020



Elizabeth Alquist	University of California, Berkeley	Charles Lang	University of California, Los Angeles
David Anderson	University of California, Riverside	Beth Mahoney	Cal Poly State University
Carina Avila	Pace University	Jed Moore	Cuesta College
David Avila	Cal Lutheran University	Collin Odom	Cuesta College
Chelsea Bailey	Sonoma State University		Temple University
	Brandman University	Ryan Odom	Cuesta College
Christina Bailey	Long Beach State University	Adrian Paredes	Cuesta College
Ryan Bailey	University of California, San Diego	Rebecca Reineke	Cal Poly State University
Kelley Ballagh	Alan Hancock College	Jenifer Richison	University of the Pacific
Nick Ballagh	University of the Pacific		Southwestern Methodist University
Ben Baughman	University of California, Santa Cruz	Caitlin Riley	University of California, Santa Cruz
Nicole Baughman	University of California, Los Angeles	Sheila Riley	Cuesta College
Jeremy Burns	Alan Hancock College	Ross Roemer	University of California, Santa Barbara
Jennifer Cross	University of California, Santa Barbara	Ryan Roemer	Stanford University
Kristen Davis	University of California, Santa Cruz	Christina Rohla	Cal Poly State University
Tyler Davis	Cal Poly State University	Matthew Rohla	Chico State University
	Chico State University	Carolyn Russell	Brandman University
Sharon Duffin	Fresno State University	Isabella Russell	Channel Islands State University
Tracy Foster	University of the Pacific	Chad Smithback	Sonoma State University
Trevor Foster	Cal Poly State University	Mara Spalding	Cal Poly State University
Amy Gerris	Indiana University	Megan Stephenson	Cal Poly State University
	UCLA, School of Law	Susan Thronson	Brandman University
Courtney Hall	New York University	Jeff Treat	Cornell University
Patrick Harvey	Cuesta College	Amanda Trecartin	Cal Poly State University
	Point Loma Nazarene University	Jennifer Trecartin	University of California, Davis
Jordan Henderson	Cuesta College	Cassandra Williams	Cal Poly State University
	University of California, Davis	Jessica Williams	Cal Poly State University
Ashley Herber	University of the Pacific	Jenny Wineberg	Cuesta College
Caitlin Herber	Azusa Pacific University	Julie Wise	Cuesta College
	Cal Poly State University	Tammy Wise	Cuesta College
	Brandman University		
Alan Kackmeister	University of California, Berkeley		
Chloe Keith	Cuesta College		
Matt Kuhns	Chapman College		



FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Patti Melsheimer

One of my favorite Bible passages is from Galatians 6:9. I have been reading it frequently these days. I find the words very helpful *these days with all the things that are taking place.*

“And let us not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap, if we do not loosen and relax our courage and faint.”

Some of the emails I receive from the United Methodist Church have also been very helpful. During these difficult times we need to be immersed in prayer every step along the way. The Discipleship Ministries is sending out “Daily Prayers for Anti-Racism”. I share this one:

We're all out of answers, O Covenant God of all humanity,
 We can't find the right words that will fix what has been broken,
 We can't heal the wounds caused by hundreds of years of hatred, with the Band-Aid of, “sorry,”
 or the hand sanitizer of, “not really my fault.”
 We decry destruction of property in a moment of anger
 and minimize the destruction of a people over years of disgust.
 We claim an understanding of sorts of the anger we see around us,
 but secretly wish they would act more . . . like us.
 Give us a solution; we'll pay it. Give us a fee; we'll pay it. What will it take to make all of this go away?
 “All of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for ‘God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble’.”
 Give us the grace to be humble, O Sovereign Lord. Let us not seek our own wisdom
 Let us be slow to give answers,
 slow to say, “they should,”
 and quicker to say, “I'm listening.”
 To say, “tell me about your pain.”
 To say, “I see you.”
 “I care about you.”
 Let us humble ourselves
 that we might begin anew the journey to becoming the family of God.
 In the Name of the One who humbled himself upon a cross we pray. Amen.

(If you would like to receive these daily prayers go to umcdiscipleship.org)



UMW BOOK CLUB HOPES TO MEET IN JULY

Will we be able to meet in July? That depends on whether church gatherings are allowed later this month. At this time we are planning to meet in a larger space than usual on Friday, July 24th at 11:00 AM. We'll discuss (finally) The One-in-a-Million Boy by Monica Wood. We'll also talk about possible future books. For instance we might want to consider the book, White Fragility, that Pastor Mary mentioned in one of her letters.

If things don't work out for July 24th, we'll try again for August.

submitted by Judy Leonard

News from the Mission Team

by Judy Atwood, chair

MISSION TEAM: July 2020

Judy Atwood

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

1. God's Steadfast Love...in Action
2. God's Love in Action in Arroyo Grande
3. Sanctuary Cleaning
4. Special Giving Totals for 2020

1. GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE...IN ACTION

Although you, and even our congregation, alone may lack the resources to effect change in a broken world, our collective giving is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation.

Because of the Peace with Justice Sunday offering, the people of The United Methodist Church make a difference together by sowing seeds and yielding the fruits of peace.

Equipping the United Methodist Church to do justice in Jesus' name... This happens when you give to the Peace with Justice Sunday special offering. Your gift makes ministry possible because you give:

*United Methodists spearhead a peace ministry uniting Arizona border communities.

*United Methodists in Liberia are being equipped to implement the denomination's Social Principles to address social-justice issues.

*Pennsylvania students are educating their community about sex-trafficking at home and abroad.

These initiatives, and hundreds of other ones, are possible because you give. Half of our offering stays within our Cal-Pac Conference and is managed by the conference Peace with Justice Coordinator, and the other half is administered by the General Board of Church and Society for ministry around the world. Many hands/gifts make much possible in a world today that is crying out for a sense of justice for all humanity. You received an offering envelope in the weekly letter to make it easier to give. I hope we all spend some time in prayer and respond as we are able.

2. GOD'S LOVE IN ACTION IN ARROYO GRANDE

Creative ways of doing ministry and sharing God's Love in Action have become the way of ministry these days due to sheltering at home and no in-person worship.

Your Mission Team had planned at the beginning of the year to help supply funds to our preschool teachers for needed classroom supplies. Guess what? We can't do a noisy offering with no in-person worship.

So, we are proposing that families plan together how they might participate in an offering to help our teachers. Unfortunately, you won't get to drop it in the buckets held by our Sunday School Children this time and you'll miss that fun. Joel Anderson suggests you do it the way you do your regular giving and mark it for "school supplies for the preschool".

3. SANCTUARY CLEANING

Executive Janitorial will prepare our church to re-open and we, too, will pick up new cleaning tasks along the way. Stay tuned.

4. SPECIAL GIVING TOTALS FOR 2020


Many hands made much possible!



Your second mile giving will be caught up when we have the information.

A THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION:
DON'T ASK GOD TO GUIDE YOUR FOOTSTEPS,
IF YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO MOVE YOUR FEET.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2  Collin Odom Birthday	3  Mary Whitson Birthday	4 
5 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	6  Shirley Cross Birthday  Bud Johnson Birthday	7	8 Michael Rohla Birthday 	9	10	11  Larry Baughman Birthday  Bernie Hawkins Birthday
12 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	13  Lexie Harrigan Birthday	14 Sarah Burgeson Birthday   Dick Melsheimer Birthday	15  Faye Cuddy Birthday Gary Hughes Birthday   Enrique Quintana Birthday	16	17	18
19 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  Joel Anderson Birthday	20 Betty Lorenz Birthday   Christine Ridley Birthday Nancie Thompson Birthday 	21	22	23 David Bolterman Birthday 	24	25
26 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	27	28	29 Cassie Davis Birthday 	30	31	



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PLEASE NOTE:

Layout Editor reserves the right to cut and edit articles to meet space limitations.

Sanctuary Prayer Time Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to Noon

You are welcomed to seek the peace and quiet of the church sanctuary to pray.

The ceiling is high, the ventilation is good, the participants are few and you are invited to sit down for a moment or two six feet apart and pray. People have been coming and going one or two at a time and are finding comfort there. There is sanitizer at the door for you to use. Be sure you have a mask, in the event that you are interacting with someone else. We have decided to make it a once-a-week "Tuesday" opening. Thank you for your prayers.



Flowers for You and Yours!

Would you like to buy flowers for yourself or someone else! Since we are recording worship moments and are not in the sanctuary together, those wonderful occasions we lift up in our lives to share with one another have gone right out the window! They don't have to!!! If you want a flower dedication we can still do it.

We'll photograph it in our weekly video. We'll announce your special occasion and we will bring you the flowers one way or another. So, whether you want honor someone in a dedication or you simply need those flowers to perk YOU up, we welcome you to do the usual flower routine! We can either order at the Grand Bouquet like we do when we're "in church". Or we will go purchase some flowers at Trader Joe's and Brad Bettencourt will arrange them for us. Brad owned a flower shop for decades and he's expert at it. In one our videos you saw the flowers he arranged to honor his parents. Last week you saw a bouquet from the Grand Bouquet honoring the 62nd wedding anniversary of dear friends Nancy and Roger Sperling. And next week there will be a beautiful bunch from Trader Joe's as I honor my father who died July 9th 1974 whose memorial service was July 12th. "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" as we honor and remember our loved ones.

---MBB



JULY

Collin Odom	07/02
Mary Whitson	07/03
Shirley Cross	07/06
Bud Johnson	07/06
Michael Rohla	07/08
Larry Baughman	07/11
Bernie Hawkins	07/11
Lexie Harrigan	07/13
Sarah Burgeson	07/14
Dick Melsheimer	07/14
Faye Cuddy	07/15
Gary Hughes	07/15
Enrique Quintana	07/15
Joel Anderson	07/19
Betty Lorenz	07/20
Christine Ridley	07/20
Nancy Thompson	07/20
David Bolterman	07/23
Cassie Davis	07/29

Have we missed **your** birthday? If so, it is not listed in our data base. Please contact the church office and we will be glad to add your birth date to our monthly birthday list!

Hope, Joy & Love Rising



First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

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Visit us on the web at worshipweekly.com

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Thank You to all who have been bringing boxes of breakfast cereals and macaroni & cheese to the church office for The Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry. Your donations are greatly appreciated. We have been having between 30-40 participants each day at the Food Pantry in Grover Beach. We will still

need the above items but if you would like to bring something different, rice and dried beans are always welcomed. You can bring these items to the church office, which is usually open between 9 AM and 2 PM Monday-Thursday. They will be delivered to the Pantry by church members who volunteer at the Pantry.

And if you have an **overabundance of items in your garden** (zucchini or tomatoes or ??) or if your **fruit trees are weighed down**, those items can also be brought to the church office. If you are not able pick the fruit yourself, you can call the San Luis Obispo Food Coalition and they will send the “Gleaners” to pick it for you and deliver it to the Food Pantry.

Please contact the GleanSLO Program Coordinator, Emily Wilson, at ewilson@slofoodbank.org or (905) 235-1180 to arrange a glean.

submitted by Patti Melsheimer